[16th March 1954

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" How many of them are in the headquarters, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" There is one each at Tiruchirappalli, Lalgudi, Kulithalai and Pudukkottai."

Outbreak of cholera in Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district.

* 196 Q.—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many persons died of cholera and of starvation at the time of the outbreak of cholera in Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, during the months of October, November and December 1953;

(b) the measures adopted by the Government to check the spread of this epidemic; and

(c) whether any arrangement was made to supply foodstuffs to the people of the cholera-affected areas?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) The number of persons who died of cholera in Tiruvallur taluk during October 1953 to December 1953 is as follows :—

October 1953	12
November 1953	54
December 1953	227

No one died of starvation in the area during the said period.

" (b) Preventive measures such as isolation and treatment of infected cases, disinfection of infected houses, chlorination of all water sources and mass inoculations were carried out. An additional staff of seven Health Inspectors was posted in the area to augment the District Board staff.

" (c) Wherever necessary, rice and barley were supplied to the indigent people by the local authority concerned."

SRI V. DARMALINGA NAYAKAR :—" Sir, in view of the fact that there is social boycott in the villages, the Harijans mainly depending upon daily wages could not have anything for their livelihood and they are forced to starve. Fifty per cent of the deaths occur on account of such starvation. Will the Government consider the desirability of making a provision to have a separate fund and arrange to supply foodstuffs to the Harijans at the time of cholera to avoid starvation deaths? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already stated that rice and barley were supplied to indigent people by the concerned local authority."